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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF  
CASTLE WARD

# Annual Reports

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH  
INSPECTOR AND  
CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT

For 1960





# RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CASTLE WARD

## ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
and CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT

1960

### OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health - MADGE HOPPER, M.B., B.S., B.HY., D.P.H.

*Main Office:* SOUTH AREA HEALTH OFFICE, NEWBURN ROAD, THROCKLEY,  
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE. *Telephone :* Lemington 6-74365.

Health Housing Meat	}	Chief Public Health Inspector - E. W. STRACHAN, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
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Health Meat	}	Additional Public Health Inspector - J. TAYLOR, M.A.P.H.I.
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Health Meat	}	Additional Public Health Inspector - R. HARDY, M.A.P.H.I.
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Clerk Typist	-	Mrs. D. MCGREGOR (left March, 1960) Mrs. J. SANDERSON (commenced April, 1960)
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Clerk Typist (Assistant)		Mrs. J. HETHERINGTON
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Rodent Operator	-	W. E. JOBSON
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Offices	- - - -	COUNCIL OFFICES, PONTELAND
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Telephone	- - -	PONTELAND 2372-6
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# *Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health*

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1960.

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MR CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you the Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Rural District in 1960.

With the rapid growth of the Newbiggin Hall Estate during the year and to a smaller extent of other new building, the population again increased, this year a considerable increase of 2,250 in the year. The last seven years have shown a progressively increasing population.

There were several changes in the vital statistics of the district, the birth rate, which in 1959 had dropped to a low level, attained a more usual level, approximately the national rate, the death rate also was similar to the rate for England and Wales for the year. The number of illegitimate births declined but the number of still births noticeably rose.

A very encouraging feature of the vital statistics was the big drop in the infant mortality rate to 10.8 infant deaths per 1,000 live births from 17.7 in 1959. The rate for England and Wales in 1960 was 21.7 per 1,000 live births. A matter for congratulation was that no infant death occurred in 1960 from an infective cause. Although infection as a cause of death in infants has almost been eliminated, there still occurs such a death from time to time.

In the individual causes of death, there was a slight decrease in the deaths of residents from coronary disease and angina but a slight increase in those from vascular lesions of the nervous system.

A noteworthy rise took place in the number of deaths from malignant disease ; an actual increase of twenty deaths of residents compared with the previous year. The chief increase was in deaths from Malignant Disease of the Stomach, which doubled in number from those registered in 1959.

Deaths from Malignant Disease of the Lungs and Bronchi which had dropped to one in the previous year, from four in 1958, rose sharply to a total of eight of residents (all male).

Of the five deaths from Influenza, four occurred in the institutions for the chronic sick.

An encouraging feature of the vital statistics was the decline in deaths from accidents of all types. Those from motor vehicle accidents dropped to two from five, and those classified under " All other Accidents " to eight from eleven in the previous year ; three of the latter were deaths in the chronic institutions. One death was an industrial accident, another an accident due to falling from a tree. Two deaths were due to accidents in the home. It would appear that continued propaganda on the lines already launched both in road, industrial and home safety, is a means of lessening the accident rate.

The number of suicides again remained at five as in the previous year ; a disturbingly high level.

It is satisfactory to be able to report that the decrease in both the mortality and incidence of tuberculosis of all forms continued. No death from tuberculosis was registered in the course of the year, one death from the non-pulmonary form occurred in 1959. The incidence of pulmonary tubercle dropped to three from six, in the previous year.

It is a matter of interest that the total number of inward transfers of the disease rose to 37 in the year, as was anticipated, chiefly to the Newbiggin Hall Estate. In 1959 there were 12 inward transfers to the district. All relevant services were expanded to give aid, as required, to the transferred cases.

The Mass Radiography Unit visited the district during the summer.

The year of 1960 was remarkable for the very low incidence of infectious diseases. As 1959 was a peak year of the biennial increase in measles, only nine cases were notified in 1960.

There was a noticeable decrease in scarlet fever, though one case occurred of a more severe type than for some years. Notifications of whooping cough and dysentery remained few in number and there was no notification of food poisoning. Constant watch is required, however, for outbreaks of dysentery and food poisoning. Two interesting investigations on these lines are contained in the text of the report.

In 1960 there was no notified case of poliomyelitis and there were no known contacts in the district.

Investigation of the circumstances of three elderly females were made under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act. All three presented difficult problems which were, however, resolved without recourse to formal action.

Housing development at Newbiggin Hall continued a-pace throughout the year. The settling in of a new population, used to city conditions, to a rural district was a notable feature of 1960. Efforts were made by the Council and its officials to render the change as smooth as possible.

The number of food premises increased by 13 to a total of 147.

An outstanding change took place when the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations came into operation in October, 1960 and the responsibility for licensing the use of Special Designations in relation to milk devolved on the County Council as also the sampling of milk to ensure it conforms to prescribed standards. An interesting account of alleged unsound food, tinned tuna fish which was found to contain crystals of magnesium ammonium phosphate, is contained in the appropriate section of the report.

The various activities of a very busy department continued steadily during the year, the amount of work done in meat inspection in no way diminished and the volume of work generally increased.

Mrs. McGregor, the Senior Clerk of the department left the Council service in March, 1960 after eight years very satisfactory work.



I wish to express my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their sustained interest in the work of the department, and to the other chief officials of the Council for their co-operation.

My sincere appreciation is due to Mr. Strachan, Chief Public Health Inspector, for his very efficient and steady work during the year, to Mr. Taylor and Mr. Hardy, the additional inspectors for their continued high standard of work, and also to the clerical staff of the department.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

M. HOPPER,

Medical Officer of Health.

## I.—VITAL STATISTICS OF THE RURAL DISTRICT

### POPULATION

There was an increase of 2,250 in the Registrar General's estimated mid-year population figure on that of the previous year. The population of the Rural District was 22,760 mid-year 1960. The steady increase in population during the last seven years is the result of the development of Brunton Park, Melton Park and Darras Hall Estates, and in 1960, the increased development of the Newbiggin Hall Estate, which is being built for over-spill population by the City and County of Newcastle upon Tyne.

### BIRTHS

A total of 370 births (177 male, 193 female) was registered during the year, four of which were illegitimate. There was an increase of 31 on the total number of births for the previous year. The number of illegitimate births decreased from seven in 1959 to four in 1960.

The birth rate (corrected for age and sex distribution) for the Rural District was 15.7 per 1,000 population and that for England and Wales was 17.1. The birth rate in 1959 was the lowest recorded during the past twenty years being 11.1 per 1,000 population. The rate in 1960 reached a more usual level i.e. slightly lower than the national rate.

The number of still births showed a decided increase, a total of eight, from one in 1959 and seven, in 1958. The still birth rate for the district was 21.2 per 1,000 live and still births and that for England and Wales (provisional) was 19.7.

### DEATHS

Four hundred and thirty-nine deaths (224 male, 215 female) were registered in 1960, an increase of 43 on the total number for the previous year. St. Mary's Hospital, Stannington, The Thomas Taylor Homes, Stannington, and The Ponteland Hospital are Institutions for the chronic sick, and the patients are mainly long term residents. Deaths in relation to the chronic sick are accredited to this district for patients who are inmates for longer than six months. Accordingly, the total number of deaths for the rural district included all deaths in these chronic institutions of patients residing there longer than the six months. There were 251 deaths in the chronic hospitals and 188 of residents of the district, compared with 254 hospital deaths and 142 of residents in 1959.

The death rate which is corrected for age and sex distribution, to render it comparable with other death rates was 11.3 per 1,000 population and that for the country 11.5. The death rates for the previous year were 10.03 and 11.6 respectively.

### NATURAL INCREASE OF POPULATION

After deduction of deaths of long term residents in hospitals and institutions, the excess of births over deaths of residents was 183 compared with 187, in 1959.

### INFANT MORTALITY

The number of deaths under one year of age registered during the year declined to four from six in 1959 and seven, in 1958. All four of these deaths occurred during the first month of life and two deaths during the

first week of life and were due to perinatal causes. Of the four infant deaths, two had prematurity as a primary or contributory cause and two were due to congenital heart disease. It is significant that there was no infant death from an infective cause, and, indeed, no death after the first month and up to the end of the first year of life. During the last fifteen years, there has been a great diminution in the deaths of infants from infection due to more effective methods of treatment and improved environmental services. There has been an occasional infant death in the last few years due to infective causes in this district, and it is a matter for congratulation that, in 1960, there was no death in this group.

The infant mortality rate for the Rural District was 10.8 per 1,000 live births being half that for the country generally, which was 21.7. This rate in 1960, is the lowest recorded for the district since 1944. Much has been done in the fields of ante-natal and child care, but there still remains a nucleus of congenital abnormalities and perinatal causes to inspire further efforts at reduction, as well as in consolidating the achievement over infection. In 1959, the Infant Mortality Rate for the district was 17.7 per 1,000 live births and that for England and Wales was 22.0.

### **MATERNAL MORTALITY**

No death attributable to pregnancy or child birth was registered for the third successive year. The maternal mortality for the country was 0.39 per 1,000 live and still births.

### **INDIVIDUAL CAUSES OF DEATH**

The largest classification of deaths was, of course, those due to heart and circulatory diseases and numbered 163, of which, 79 were residents and 84 patients in the chronic hospitals.

This was an increase of ten in the deaths of residents from the figures of the previous year and was to be expected in view of the increased population. There was a slight decrease in the number of deaths of residents from coronary disease and angina from 33 in 1959 to 28, in 1960.

Deaths classified as from Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System numbered 148, of which 127 occurred in the chronic hospitals and institutions and 21, were residents. In the previous year, there were 125 deaths in this classification, 113 being hospital deaths and 12 of residents. There was therefore an increase of nine in the deaths of residents in this classification.

There was a significant increase in the number of deaths from Malignant Neoplasm — a total of 49, from 30, in 1959 and 32, in 1958. Two only of these deaths were in chronic institutions compared with three in the previous year, so that there was an actual increase of twenty in the number of deaths of residents from malignant disease.

Deaths from Malignant Neoplasm of the Stomach doubled in number. A total of 13 (one being a hospital death) compared with six, in 1959. Deaths from Malignant Neoplasm of the Lungs and Bronchi, which had dropped to one in 1959, rose very considerably to a total of nine (one of these was a hospital death). This was the highest number registered in the Rural District since 1957, when seven deaths from this cause occurred. All the nine deaths were of males. Of these, two were employed in the mining industry, one was reported to be a fairly heavy and three were light cigarette smokers, and one was a pipe smoker.



Deaths from Malignant Disease of the Breast and Uterus decreased by three. Those from other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms showed a slight increase.

There were two deaths from Leukaemia — one, a boy of 8 years and the other a girl, aged 14 years.

There was little change in the number of deaths from Respiratory Diseases generally, 26 deaths, including 17 of hospital residents, were registered in 1960, and 27 deaths, including 20 of hospital residents, in 1959.

Deaths from Influenza, however, numbered five ; there had been no death from this cause in the previous year. The deaths occurred mainly in the first quarter of the year, and four occurred in institutions for the chronic sick.

It is pleasing to be able to report that deaths from Motor Vehicle Accidents decreased considerably to two, from five, in 1959. The death toll on the roads in 1959 was the highest for some years.

The number of deaths from " All Other Accidents " dropped to a total of eight (five male and three female) from 11, the previous year. One of these deaths, was of a child of 2 years, residing in an institution in the district, who was accidentally drowned. Three deaths of elderly people (two male and one female) also occurred in chronic institutions ; two were due to falls and one to asphyxia, due to inhalation of tobacco.

One death was due to a colliery accident, another, of a child, aged 12 years falling from a tree and two were accidents in the home, both of elderly people. One had a fall at home and another was accidentally scalded.

An unwelcome feature of the vital statistics, was that the number of suicides remained at five, in 1960 as in 1959. Previous to 1959, there had been an average of two suicides a year. Deaths in 1960, comprised three women, all 45 years of age, who committed suicide by coal gas poisoning and two men, 53 and 63 years, respectively, one by the same method and one by lysol poisoning.

## II.—TUBERCULOSIS

No death from tuberculosis of any form was registered during the year. In 1959, there was one death from the non-pulmonary form of the disease and in the previous two years, none. The death rate for England and Wales for Respiratory Tuberculosis was 0.068 per 1,000 population and that for Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis 0.07 per 1,000 population.

The total number of primary notifications of tuberculosis (all forms) during the year was three cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis (all female) and two cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis (one male, one female), a total of five.

In 1959, six notifications of primary tuberculosis (four male, two female) were notified after an increase to eight, the previous year. This conforms with the present trend of a steady but gradual decline in the incidence of the disease.

The three notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were all of females, between the ages of 24 and 55 years, and the two cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were, a male of 23 years and a female of 30 years.

The effects of modern treatment, the efficient following up of contacts and the increasing use of B.C.G. vaccination, with the parents' consent, of children at risk, are having very satisfactory results.

As was envisaged in last year's report, the number of "Inward Transfers" of Tuberculosis to the district has increased to a very great extent. In the course of the year, a total of no less than 37 cases were inwardly transferred, chiefly from the City and County of Newcastle to the Newbiggin Hall Estate ; 35 were cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and two were of the Non-Pulmonary form.

The existing services, especially those of Home Help, Ambulance and After-Care were, of course extended to include the new inward transfers. Since 1952, a total of 111 cases of Tuberculosis have been inwardly transferred to the Rural district, mainly to the new housing estates. The Health Department continued close co-operation with the Chest Physicians regarding the housing needs of patients and the After-Care Subcommittee of Gosforth and Castle Ward, whose meetings are attended by the Senior Chest Physician and Almoner, dealt with other requirements, as they became necessary.

Patients mainly attend the Chest Clinic, New Bridge Street, Newcastle, and, a few, the Elswick Road Clinic, are under the care of the Senior Chest Physician and are admitted to the various Sanatoria of the region, or the appropriate Hospital, very soon after diagnosis. The staff of the Chest Clinic undertake the surveillance of contacts and B.C.G. vaccination is given to children at risk, either at clinic or school, with the parents' consent. Home visiting is carried out by the Health Visitors of the County.

Particular attention is paid by the Council, to the housing needs of tuberculous patients and in recent years, five families have been rehoused by the Council.

### **MASS RADIOGRAPHY**

The Mobile Mass Radiography Unit of the Regional Hospital Board visited the district in the early summer.

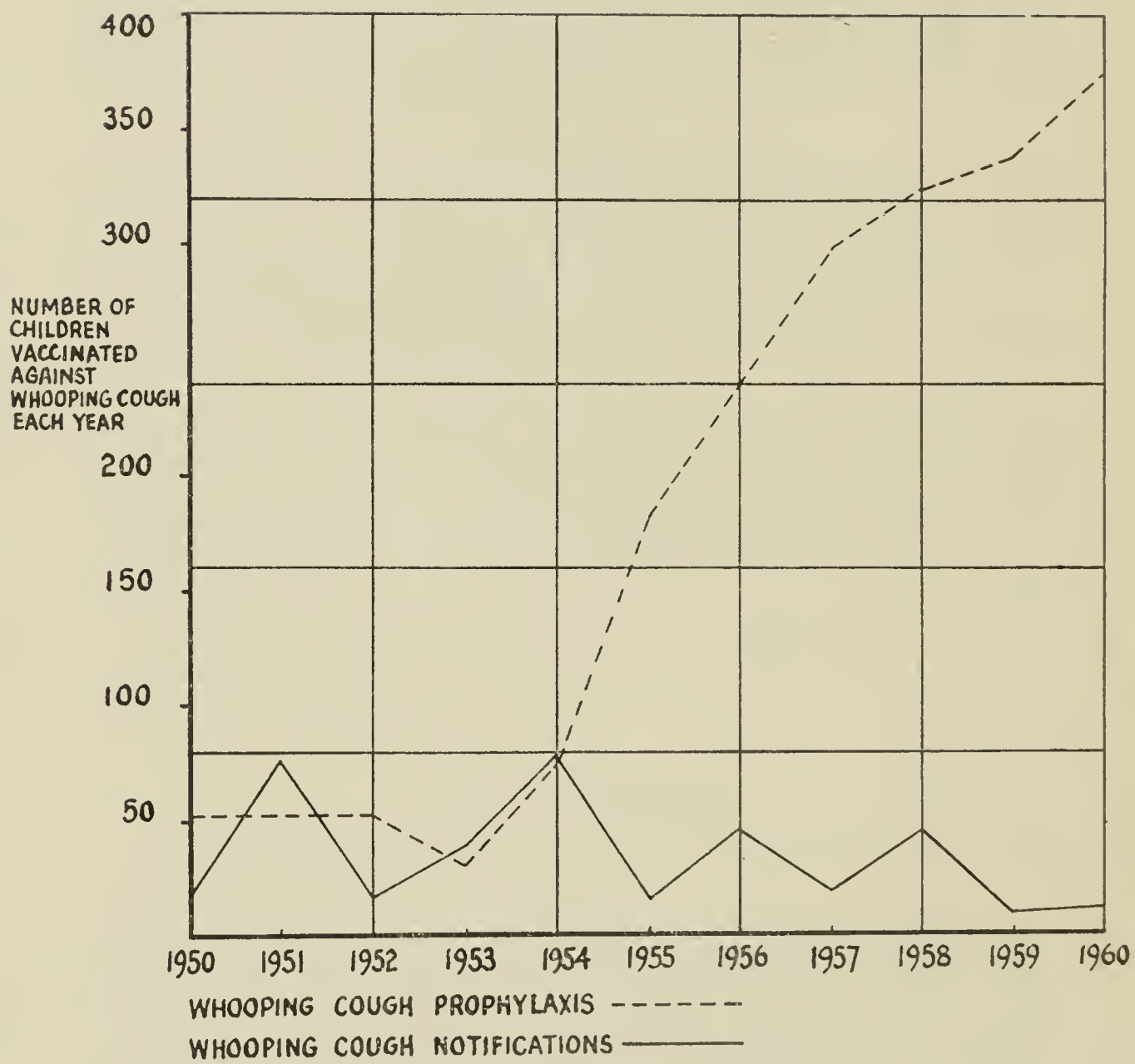
The Unit was sited at Ponteland on 30th and 31st May, when 212 persons attended, of whom two were referred to the Chest Clinic, at Dinnington on 1st and 2nd June, when 122 persons attended, of whom one was referred to the Chest Clinic and at Hazlerigg, on 3rd and 7th June, 181 persons attended, three were referred to the Chest Clinic. No active case of tuberculosis was discovered. One man was found to be suffering pneumoconiosis. These particulars have kindly been supplied by the Secretary of the Unit.

### **III.—GENERAL EPIDEMIOLOGY**

The total number of notifications of Infectious Disease during the year was 40, compared with 304 in 1959 and 92, in 1958.

The large number of cases notified in 1959 was due almost entirely to an outbreak of measles.







## MEASLES

The faithful following of the pattern of biennial increase, as the younger children become at risk, has been frequently mentioned in previous reports and the incidence of the disease in 1960 continued the pattern, even to a close proximity in the actual number of cases.

In the outbreak of measles in 1959, which commenced in March with a peak period in April and rapid decline after July, 277 cases were notified. During 1957, the year of previous outbreak, 300 cases were notified. In the intervening year of 1958, nine cases only were notified. The incidence of 1960 closely followed the pattern, 12 cases of measles being notified in the course of the year.

## SCARLET FEVER

A further decline took place in the notification of this disease to a new low total of five, compared with nine, in 1959. One case in July, was found to be of a more severe type than the usual mild case. Investigation showed that there was a remote part-time contact with milk production and accordingly, the person in question agreed, voluntarily, to temporarily discontinue his connection with the production of milk. The child recovered in a short time and the contact resumed his part-time occupation.

## WHOOPING COUGH

The low level of Whooping Cough incidence of the last few years continued in 1960, 12 cases being notified, compared with 10, in 1959 and 32, in 1958. Nine cases occurred in December.

A graph showing the gradual decrease in incidence during the past eleven years, as the number of children receiving protection against Whooping Cough each year has increased, has been continued this year. It very clearly shows the effect of immunisation against Whooping Cough in the control of the disease.

## DYSENTERY

Five cases of Sonne-Dysentery occurred sporadically during the year. There had been three cases notified in 1959 and 13, in 1958.

Only one positive family contact was found in these cases. In previous years, positive family contacts have been more numerous.

Three contacts of a case of suspected dysentery were investigated, as a result of information received from an adjoining authority. All stool specimens proved negative to pathogens on bacteriological examination.

Arising out of a communication received from a General Practitioner practising in the district, in connection with the filling in of a pond with refuse by the Council at the Morley Hill Pig Farm, Hazlerigg, faecal specimens were taken from six children residing in the houses at the farm. The farmer had recently suffered a loss of some 200 piglets, due to an alleged bacillus infection and it was for this reason, it was considered advisable to ascertain the presence or otherwise of infection in the children, as there had been diarrhoeal symptoms. All specimens proved negative on bacteriological examination.

## **FOOD POISONING**

No notification of food poisoning was received during the year. One case of Salmonellosis occurred in June.

*Salmonella typhi-murium* was isolated from a child of twelve years who had had severe sickness and diarrhoea. Routine examination of the family contacts showed the mother to be a positive excretor. The child and the mother received treatment from the family doctor and were eventually cleared, but another organism of the *Salmonella* group, *Salmonella-Thompson*, was also isolated from the stools of the mother, and it was some two months before she was clear of the second organism. No link with food could be established.

## **PRIMARY PNEUMONIA AND INFLUENZA**

There has been a gradual decrease in the number of notified cases of primary pneumonia during the last few years to three, in 1960, and two in 1959, from five in 1958 and eight, in 1957. As in former years, the general practitioners of the district, in conjunction with this department, continued to keep a close watch on the prevalence of Influenza in the district, as distinct from the common cold and its complications.

## **ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS**

There has been no notified case of this disease in the district since 1955, nor were there any known contacts during the year.

## **ANTHRAX**

### **THE PUBLIC HEALTH (INFECTIOUS DISEASES) AMENDMENT REGULATIONS, 1960**

The above Regulations came into operation on the 1st December, 1960, and specifically referred to Anthrax which is now to be considered as a notifiable disease and as such it is the responsibility of local medical practitioners, that in addition to the present notification by them under Section 65 of the Factories Act, 1937 to the Chief Inspector of Factories, it is also necessary to notify the Medical Officer of Health. All the general practitioners, medical superintendents of hospitals and institutions in the district, were notified and provided with a copy of the new Regulations.

These new Regulations remove a previous anomaly.

## **IV.—NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 AMENDMENT ACT, 1951**

### **Burial or Cremation of the Dead — Section 50.**

No formal action was necessary under this section.

### **Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in Need of Care and Attention — Section 47.**

Towards the end of the year, visits and investigations were made into the conditions of three persons, one an elderly lady living alone and the others, two elderly sisters living together. In both cases no formal action was necessary. After considerable difficulty, the services of two part time home helps were enlisted in the first case and in the second,

one sister was admitted to hospital on a voluntary basis, and the services of the home help who had been working in the house for some time, were continued for the other sister.

## V.—HOUSING

The standard of housing throughout the Rural District is reasonably good. The only really unfit property on which action under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957 has still to be finalised is at Stamfordham. It is anticipated that this will be completed during 1961.

During the year, the Council have built 16 houses. In the same period, the City and County of Newcastle upon Tyne erected 694 houses at Newbiggin Hall for their overspill population. Private building development produced 217 houses, built in the main at Heddon-on-the-Wall, Darras Hall and Ponteland. The total number of houses built and owned by the Council now total 1,173, of which 148 are for old people. Two cases of overcrowding were found during the year which were remedied by the owners of the property.

At the request of the Housing Committee, fourteen applicants for re-housing on medical grounds were visited and their housing conditions investigated, a report and recommendation was made to the Committee in each case.

## VI.—FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Details of the inspection of food premises in the district, which now number 147, an increase of 13 over last year, are contained in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector. Regular visits to food premises were made and employees given advice and instruction, and in this connection, posters on food hygiene were distributed.

As in the previous year, no illness among residents in the district was traced to any of the food or catering premises.

Samples of ice-cream totalling 32, were taken during the year and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination. Regular visits during the season were made to the one and only manufacturer of ice-cream whose premises are situated within the district. A satisfactory standard of hygiene is maintained.

No formal action was necessary under this Act but two cases of the sale of alleged unsound food were carefully investigated. Details of these are contained in the Chief Public Health Inspector's report.

## VII.—WATER SUPPLY

The Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company is the official water undertaker to the Council. Their water mains are so sited throughout the Rural District as to enable all properties to be connected. There are still three private water services in operation, but these will, no doubt, in time be discontinued when the cost of renewal of mains make it an uneconomic proposition.



### VIII.—ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

As mentioned in the previous Annual Report, the problem of atmospheric pollution does not affect the Rural District to the same extent as that experienced in the more urbanised and industrial centres. Until recently, the spoil bank situated at Brunswick Village was a source of pollution of the atmosphere, but since the closing of the colliery, with the consequent termination of the tipping of spoil, the position has greatly improved.

While this source of contamination has been removed, it is as well to remember the result of the investigation of atmospheric pollution at Brunswick Village in 1955, when it was found that the greater part of the pollution was due to industries outside the boundaries of the district and to domestic smoke.

### IX.—WELFARE OF OLD PEOPLE

At the present time, there are five "over 60 clubs" which are situated at Hazlerigg, Heddon-on-the-Wall, Dinnington Village, Brunswick Village and Ponteland. The Northumberland Rural Old People's Voluntary Welfare Committee through their Secretary, Mr. Trotter, and Organiser, Miss Thompson, continue to give guidance, help and encouragement, to all organisations where the welfare of old people is concerned. The Ponteland Women's Voluntary Service have done some exceedingly good work in helping the aged by organising visiting groups. There has not, unfortunately, been a meeting of the Castle Ward Rural District Council's Old People's Welfare Committee; it is however, anticipated that this Committee will be functioning next year. It is understood that another club is to be formed in the Stamfordham area during the year. The time devoted to work in connection with the welfare of elderly people is well spent.

### X.—HEALTH EDUCATION

From time to time, posters were displayed throughout the district and several talks given to various organisations on matters relating to food hygiene, food poisoning and accidents in the home, by members of the staff of the department. Such work is necessary in order to stimulate and sustain the interest of the general public in matters appertaining to public health.

The Council incorporates home safety with their Road Safety Committee.

### XI.—NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

This enactment came into force in October, 1960. Very soon after its publication, complaints were received by the Council from residents in Cheviot View, Ponteland, of an alleged nuisance from barking dogs housed in the Amberdale Kennels.

Amberdale Kennels was a building erected during wartime for the Air Ministry and since converted into kennels. Investigations into the complaint were proceeding at the end of the year.



## MORTUARY SERVICE

No change was made in connection with the mortuary service. A mortuary at Gosforth serves the northern and eastern parts of the rural district and another, at Newburn, the southern and western parts. Both mortuaries are of up-to-date design, and financial arrangements for their use have been made with the respective Councils.

## XII.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE DISTRICT

The details under this section have been supplied in the report of Mr. E. W. Strachan, Chief Public Health Inspector.

### HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT

#### (a) HOSPITALS UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

- (i) Neurosis and Rehabilitation Hospital, Birney Hill.
- (ii) Burnholme, Stannington, attached to the Northgate Hospital, Morpeth.
- (iii) The Ponteland Hospital.
- (iv) St. Mary's Hospital, Stannington (treatment of mental disorders).
- (v) The Stannington Children's Hospital, Stannington.

#### (b) LOCAL AUTHORITY HOMES

- (i) The Mona Taylor Maternity Home, Stannington (Northumberland County Council).
- (ii) The Thomas Taylor Homes, Stannington (aged people) (Northumberland County Council) (Part III Accommodation).

#### (c) NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

Services 3, 4, 5 and 6 and the care of the buildings under service 2 are administered by the South Area Health Sub-Committee of the Northumberland County Council.

#### 1. DOMICILLIARY NURSING AND MIDWIFERY

There are six nurse/midwives practising in the district and two more share the Stamfordham district.

- (1) Nurse Simpson, 4 Cheviot View, Brunswick Village.
  - (2) Nurse Cockburn, 49 Western Way, Darras Hall (Dinnington Village area). Telephone : Ponteland 2600.
  - (3) Nurse Brown, 5 The Green, Ponteland  
Telephone : Ponteland 2324.
  - (4) Nurse Learney, Wooler Cottage, Stannington.  
Telephone : Stannington 242.
  - (5) Nurse Edmondson, 33 The Fairway, Brunton Park.  
Telephone : Wideopen 3224.
- Nurse Cornfoot, Two Trees, Scotsgap and Nurse Gill, The Willows, Corbridge, together with Nurse Brown share Stamfordham District. Telephone : Corbridge 90.

(6) Nurse Turnbull, 31 Aquila Drive, Heddon-on-the-Wall.

A male nurse, Mr. A. Wood, 57 Halton Drive, Woodlands Park North, telephone : Wideopen 2484, was appointed to the County staff.

## 2. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

There are nine Maternity and Child Welfare Centres situated in the rural district, one at each of the following places :—

Dinnington Village, Brunswick Village, Brunton Park, Hazlerigg, Ponteland, Stamfordham, Stannington Settlement, Heddon-on-the-Wall and Ouston.

In 1960, the approval of the Ministry of Health for the erection of a new centre at Brunton Park was obtained.

Regular sessions are held for babies and children up to five years and for expectant mothers, including relaxation classes, also for immunisation as well as other special sessions.

## 3. AMBULANCE SERVICE

Extensions to the Wideopen Depot were completed during the year and two additional driver attendants were appointed and one extra vehicle added to the establishment. The Wideopen Depot is the largest in the county and is situated a few hundred yards beyond the eastern boundary of the Rural District. It covers the eastern part of Castle Ward Rural District and Gosforth and Longbenton Urban Districts. All messages from the whole of the southern part of the County are received at this depot from 4 p.m. to 8 a.m. on weekdays and from 12 noon on Saturdays to 8 a.m. on Mondays, and then relayed to the respective stations. The southern and western parts of the district are covered by ambulances of the Throckley Depot and the northern part by ambulances of the Morpeth Depot.

## 4. VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Immunisation against diphtheria continued at a steady pace throughout the year, the injections being given at the Child Welfare Centres, at the Schools and by the General Practitioners.

A total of 435 (337) primary courses were given, including 387 children, 0-4 years and 48 children, 5-15 years. In addition, 449 (317) reinforcing injections were given. At 31st December, 1960 the immunisation state of the child population was as follows :—

Immunised at some time during their lives

0 - 4 years	79%	(80%)
5 - 15 years	98%	(98%)
Total under 15 years	89%	(90%)

The Immunity Index, which shows the children who have been immunised during the last five years was

Under 1 year	35%	(36%)
1 - 4 years	90%	(91%)
5 - 14 years	76%	(75%)
Total Immunity Index	77%	(77%)

The figures in brackets indicate those for the previous year. Considering that since 1957, the campaign of vaccination against Polio myelitis has been waged with great vigour, it is encouraging to note

that the figures for immunisation against diphtheria have not dropped to any extent. Continued efforts have been made to endeavour to keep up the diphtheria immunisation figures.

The Immunity Index of children under one year, which in 1959, rose to 36% from 32% in 1958 and 18% in 1957, was 35%. This showed good response on the part of the young parents.

It is of the utmost importance that as many children as possible should be immunised, as from time to time there is a sudden outbreak in various parts of the country, and it is the unimmunised or incompletely immunised children who are at risk.

### **WHOOPIING COUGH PROPHYLAXIS**

A total of 374 children received prophylaxis against whooping cough, 316, in the form of the triple antigen of Diphtheria and Whooping Cough and Tetanus and 58 with the combined antigen of Diphtheria and Whooping Cough. The total included 332 children under one year, 36, 1 - 4 years and six, 5 - 14 years. The graph on page 9 shows in no uncertain way how the incidence of the disease has dropped in the last ten years, as the yearly number of children protected against the disease has increased, and their immunity built up.

### **TETANUS**

The number of children immunised against Tetanus rose to a total of 316 from 261, in 1959, 193, in 1958 and 50, in 1957. As previously mentioned this protection has become almost a standard routine among young children since the inception of the triple antigen.

### **VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX**

An increase also took place in the number of vaccinations against Smallpox to 273 from 223, in 1959 and 106, in 1958. There were also 50 re-vaccinations and 16, in 1959. This increase, although comparatively small, is a welcome feature.

### **VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS**

Extension of the age limit took place to include up to 40 years of age together with certain other groups.

In the whole of the South Area up to the 31st December, 1960, 21,304 children aged six to 15 years, 1,312 expectant mothers, 410 persons in other groups, including Doctors, ambulance drivers, nurses and some hospital staff, 3,376 young persons aged 15 - 25 years, 1,389 persons aged 26 - 40 years, a total of 27,791 had received two injections. In addition 22,254 persons had received three injections.

## **5. HOME HELP SERVICE**

One hundred and twenty one patients (88) resident in the Rural District received the services of a home help for varying periods. The cases include 75 (58) aged and infirm people, 28 (20) confinements, 13 (9) cases of acute illness, 4 blind persons and one case of tuberculosis. A decided increase took place of elderly people receiving help from the service, and there was also an increase in the number of confinement cases served.



This service is of invaluable help in the case of old people living alone, and, in many cases, it enables them to carry on living comfortably in their own homes and in their own environment to the end.

## 6. CARE AND AFTER-CARE

The Gosforth and Castle Ward After-Care Committee held regular quarterly meetings throughout the year. As formerly, persons suffering from tuberculosis and other chest and heart diseases received aid in the form of milk and clothing, and travelling expenses of relatives to hospitals, as necessary. In one instance, financial aid was given to meet expenses to be incurred in connection with a special cardiac operation in the case of a young child.

## 7. NURSING CARE COMMITTEES

The three Nursing Care Committees of Blagdon (Stannington), Ponteland and Stamfordham, though rarely called on for their services, are there to give help should the need arise. The Dinnington district is looked after by the Gosforth and Castle Ward After-Care Sub-Committee and more unusual and special items of equipment supplied by the South Area Health Sub-Committee, as required.

## CHIROPODY

In July, 1960, arrangements were made to provide a Chiropody service throughout the administrative County for the handicapped and for expectant mothers. This service is available to the elderly in districts where facilities are not being provided by Old People's Voluntary Welfare Committees. Arrangements can be made for domicilliary visits where necessary and appointments can be made through the health visitors.

## STATISTICAL SUMMARY AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

### PARTICULARS OF DISTRICT :

Area (in acres)	..	..	..	..	..	..	82,846
Registrar General's estimated population	..	..	..	..	..	..	22,760
Number of habitable houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,466
Sum represented by penny rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	£1,345
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	..	..	£327,682

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS :

	Males	Females	Total
Live births (leg.)	175	191	366
Live births (illeg.)	2	2	4
Still births	2	6	8
Deaths	224	215	439
Birth rate per 1,000 population	..	..	15.7
Still births per 1,000 live and still births	..	..	21.2
Death rate	..	..	11.3

### DEATHS FROM PREGNANCY, CHILDBIRTH, ABORTION :

Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	..	Nil.
---	----	------

### DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR :

All infants per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	10.8
-----------------------------------	----	----	----	------



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**BIRTH AND DEATH RATES (per 1,000 Population).**

				Births		Deaths	
				Castle Ward	England & Wales	Castle Ward	England & Wales
1939	..	..		14.2	15.5	8.8	12.1
1940	..	..		13.1	15.1	8.3	14.3
1941	..	..		13.0	15.7	19.0	11.6
1942	..	..		15.9	16.3	10.1	11.6
1943	..	..		15.7	17.0	9.3	12.1
1944	..	..		17.5	18.1	12.6	11.6
1945	..	..		14.9	16.5	11.6	11.4
1946	..	..		17.2	19.6	10.7	11.5
1947	..	..		14.9	21.0	11.5	12.0
1948	..	..		15.4	18.3	10.9	10.8
1949	..	..		15.8	16.7	10.0	11.7
1950	..	..		15.6	15.8	10.47	11.6
1951	..	..		14.2	15.5	10.43	12.5
1952	..	..		13.8	15.3	17.05	11.3
1953	..	..		13.7	15.5	19.9	11.4
1954	..	..		15.58	15.2	20.02	11.3
1955	..	..		16.4	15.0	17.89	11.7
1956	..	..		15.2	15.7	12.0	11.7
1957	..	..		16.3	16.1	10.1	11.5
1958	..	..		17.4	16.4	11.8	11.7
1959	..	..		11.1	16.5	10.03	11.6
1960	..	..		15.7	17.1	11.3	11.5

**INFANT MORTALITY RATES (per 1,000 Live Births)**

					Castle Ward	England & Wales
1944	..	..	..	..	41.8	46
1945	..	..	..	..	50.9	46
1946	..	..	..	..	43.0	43
1947	..	..	..	..	41.0	41
1948	..	..	..	..	26.3	34
1949	..	..	..	..	13.4	32
1950	..	..	..	..	13.4	29.8
1951	..	..	..	..	19.2	29.6
1952	..	..	..	..	55.0	27.6
1953	..	..	..	..	51.3	25.5
1954	..	..	..	..	27.1	25.5
1955	..	..	..	..	28.6	24.9
1956	..	..	..	..	15.0	23.8
1957	..	..	..	..	20.4	23.0
1958	..	..	..	..	21.4	22.5
1959	..	..	..	..	17.7	22.0
1960	..	..	..	..	10.8	21.7

**INFANT MORTALITY, 1960**

Prematurity	..	..	4	days	
Hyaline Membrane Disease					
and Prematurity	..		5	hours	
Congenital Heart					
Disease (2)	..		3	weeks	}
			2	weeks	

## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The table on page 10 gives the number and age groups of the cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year.

### PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY TESTS

	Positive	Negative
Throat Swabs for Diphtheria .. ..	—	14
Throat Swabs for Haemolytic Streptococci ..	2	14
Specimens of Sputum for Tuberculosis ..	—	—
Gastric aspiration for Inoculation (Tuberculosis) ..	—	—
Urine for Pus Cells and Culture .. ..	—	—
Stool Specimens for Dysentery .. ..	18	44
Stool Specimens for other purposes .. ..	—	—
Nasal swabs for Pertussis .. ..	—	—
	20	2
TOTAL .. ..	92	

### FOOD POISONING RETURN, 1960

#### OUTBREAKS DUE TO IDENTIFIED AGENTS :

Total Outbreaks .. Nil.	Total Cases.. Nil.
-------------------------	--------------------

#### OUTBREAKS DUE TO :

(a) Chemical Poisons .. ..	Nil.
(b) Salmonella Organisms .. ..	Nil.
(c) Staphylococci (including Toxin) .. ..	Nil.
(d) Cl. botulinum .. ..	Nil.
(e) Other bacteria .. ..	Nil.

#### OUTBREAKS OF UNDISCOVERED CAUSE :

Total Outbreaks .. Nil.	Total Cases.. Nil.
-------------------------	--------------------

SINGLE CASES .. ..	Nil.
Agents Identified .. ..	Nil.

NUMBER OF DEATHS .. Nil.

FOOD INVOLVED .. Nil.

SALMONELLOSIS ..

Total Outbreaks .. One

Single Cases .. Two

One due to Salmonella Typhimurium.  
One due to Salmonella Thompson

## NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE YEARLY RETURN, 1960

[illegible][illegible]



TUBERCULOSIS—AGE GROUPS

AGE PERIODS	New cases notified as occurring in the Rural District during 1960			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 .. .. .	—	—	—	—
1—5.. .. .	—	—	—	—
5—15 .. .. .	—	—	—	—
15—25 .. .. .	—	1	—	1
25—35 .. .. .	—	—	1	—
35—45 .. .. .	—	1	—	—
45—55 .. .. .	—	1	—	—
55—65 .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Age Unknown .. .. .	—	—	—	—
<div><div><div>—</div><div>3</div></div><div><div>3</div><div>2</div></div><div>5</div></div>				

## STATEMENT OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS, 1960

	No. of cases on Register at commencement of Quarter		New Notifications		Inward Transfers		Number of cases removed from Register		Number of cases remaining	
	Pul-monary	Non-Pul.	Pul-monary	Non-Pul.	Pul-monary	Non-Pul.	Pul-monary	Non-Pul.	Pul-monary	Non-Pul.
March 31st, 1960—										
Males ..	66	8	1	—	5	—	1	—	71	8
Females ..	73	17	1	—	3	—	1	—	76	17
June 30th, 1960—										
Males ..	71	8	—	—	5	—	2	—	74	8
Females ..	76	17	—	—	3	—	1	—	78	17
September 30th, 1960—										
Males ..	74	8	1	—	4	—	—	—	79	8
Females ..	78	17	—	—	2	—	—	—	80	17
December 31st, 1960—										
Males ..	79	8	—	1	6	1	—	—	85	10
Females ..	80	17	1	1	7	1	1	—	87	19

# Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent 1960

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1960.

It has been a year of steady progress. Mrs. D. McGregor, after working eight years as Senior Clerk left in March, 1960.

A new survey of houses throughout the Rural District was commenced. It is eleven years since the last survey was concluded.

The policy of the Council to desludge all domestic septic tanks in the district, twice annually, was put into effect by the operation of a 1,000 gallon Trader/Yorkshire Cesspool Emptier Vehicle in April.

A report on slaughterhouse facilities in accordance with Section 3 of the Slaughterhouse Act was submitted to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. It was recommended that the 1st July, 1962 be the time when the Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulation, 1958, Part II Construction of Slaughterhouses, become operative in the district.

During the year, amendments to existing legislation and new controls in connection with Caravan Sites and Noise Nuisances came into operation. There was also the Radioactive Substances Act, 1960, which provides a measure of control in connection with the accumulation and disposal of radioactive material exercisable by the Minister of Housing and Local Government who, in certain cases, consults the local authority.

The increase in housing development caused a corresponding increase in the domestic refuse to be collected. This is dealt with in detail under "Public Cleansing."

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### (a) MILK SUPPLY

The Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, made under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, requires a Local Authority to ensure the hygienic retail distribution of milk. This includes the registration of milk distributors of which there are ten operating in the district.

#### REGISTERED DISTRIBUTORS :

- Mr. J. H. Brown, Ivy House, Kenton Bank Foot.
- Cramlington and District Co-operative Society Ltd., Brunswick Village.
- Mr. H. J. Farquhar, 10 Queensway, Brunton Park.
- Mr. J. A. Herron, Woodside, Darras Hall.
- Mr. J. Hudspeth, North Brunton Farm, North Gosforth.
- Newcastle Co-operative Society, Cowgate, Newcastle upon Tyne.
- Messrs. W. & J. Pearson, 2 Grey Street, Brunswick Village.
- Mr. H. Thompson, Kenmore, Dinnington.

Throckley and District Co-operative Society Ltd., Hexham Road,  
Throckley.  
Mrs. M. U. White, North Mason Farm, Dinnington.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

Number of dealers licences issued to retail " Tuberculin Tested "	
Milk .. .. .	5
Number of Supplementary licences issued to retail " Tuber- culin Tested " Milk .. .. .	1

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK)  
REGULATIONS, 1949.

Number of dealers licences issued to retail " Pasteurised " milk	6
Number of dealers licences issued to retail " Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) " Milk .. .. .	4
Number of dealers licences issued to retail " Sterilised " Milk	2
Number of supplementary licences issued to retail " Pasteurised" Milk .. .. .	2
Number of supplementary licences issued to retail " Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) " Milk .. .. .	1
Number of supplementary licences issued to retail " Sterilised " Milk .. .. .	2

Twenty-six milk samples were taken during the year as follows :—

Producer Samples (Ungraded)	8	
Retailer Samples :		
Tuberculin Tested .. .. .	2	
Pasteurised .. .. .	6	
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) .. .. .	6	
Sterilised .. .. .	4	18
		<hr/>
		26

All the samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for the prescribed tests, which were satisfactory in all cases.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) Order, 1958, the Rural District of Castle Ward, together with neighbouring areas, was included in Specified Area No. 1. This meant that all milk sold by retail in the district must bear one of the special designations, i.e. " Tuberculin Tested," " Pasteurised " or " Sterilised."

The Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1960, came into operation on 1st October, 1960, which replaced and consolidated, with amendments, the Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949-1954 and the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949-1953. There are two main changes, as they affect this District, introduced by the new Regulations. Firstly, responsibility for licensing the use of Special Designations in relation to milk will now devolve upon the Food and Drugs Authority, in this case the County Council. Secondly, sampling to ensure that the milk conforms to the prescribed standards, will be carried out by the County Health Inspector. It is envisaged that this Department will be kept fully informed as to licensing and sampling carried out in the district.



**(b) FOOD PREMISES**

There are 147 food premises in the district as follows :—

Bakers and Confectioners	..	..	3
Butchers	..	..	11
Canteens (Industrial)	..	..	6
Clubs	..	..	7
Food Manufacturers	..	..	2
Fried Fish Shops (1 mobile)	..	..	2
General Dealers (including grocers and greengrocers)	..	..	52
Hospital and Institution Kitchens	..		11
Public Houses and Off-licences	..		29
Restaurants, Cafes, Snack bars	..		8
School Kitchens	..	..	16
			<hr/> 147 <hr/>

Of these, 53 are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the following purposes :—

Manufacture and Sale of Ice-Cream	..	1
Sale of Ice-Cream	..	41
Manufacture of Sausage and Preserved Meats	..	11

A number of mobile Ice-Cream kiosks are in operation at various places in the district during the summer months, and these are also inspected under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

**(c) ICE-CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT) REGULATIONS, 1947.**

32 samples of ice-cream were taken during the year for examination by the Public Health Laboratory. Of these, 9 were taken from the only manufacturer in the district, and the remainder from registered retailers. All the manufacturer's samples were placed in Grade 1, and only one of the other samples fell below this excellent standard.

**(d) FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 — SAMPLING OF FOOD.**

The Northumberland County Council Weights and Measures Department undertake formal sampling under this heading, and I am indebted to Mr. C. L. Arlidge, Chief Weights and Measures Inspector, for the following report :—

“ Particulars of samples taken in the Castle Ward Rural District for the year ending 31st December, 1960.

Beef Broth	Glucose Syrup
Beef Sausages	Glycerine, Lemon and Honey Sweets
Blackcurrant Jam	Ground Ginger
Butter	Instant Coffee
Chocolate Cake Covering	Lard
Chocolate Creamed Semolina	Lemon Barley
Condensed Milk	Lemon Juice
Cranberry Jelly	Luncheon Meat
Cream and Cheese Spread	Malt Vinegar
Creamed Rice	Milk
Curry Powder	Minced Chicken

Dairy Ice-Cream	Minced Crab
Dessert Chocolate	Mixed Spice
Doubled Cream	Orange Juice
Fruit Sauce	Pork Pies
Glace Cherries	Pork Sausages
Sanatogen	Table Jelly
Self-Raising Flour	Tomato Sauce
Shredded Beef Suet	White Pepper
Soya Oil	

Number of samples taken (other than Milk)	..	43
Number of Milk samples taken (Formal)	..	29
Number of Milk samples taken (Informal)	..	4
		—
TOTAL NUMBER OF SAMPLES TAKEN	..	76
		—

All the above samples were genuine with the exception of two samples of Milk which contained 4.8% and 25.6% respectively, of extraneous water.

No legal action was taken against the person responsible for adding the water to the milk, as he was already subject to disciplinary action by the authorities at Netherton Training School.

Milk samples were taken at four Schools and found to be genuine.

#### (e) UNSOUND FOOD.

Two complaints were received during the year, alleging the sale of unsound food. In one case, that of a mould growth in a chocolate cake, it was found after investigation that the circumstances were such, as not to warrant legal proceedings and a letter of warning was sent.

The other case was a complaint of particles of glass in a tin of tuna fish. After examination by the Public Analyst, these so-called glass particles were confirmed as being crystals of magnesium ammonium phosphate. These crystals occur naturally in fish, particularly salmon and tuna and are perfectly harmless. Their occurrence is rare, however, and according to the manufacturers, who were most co-operative, might be found in one can in four million. The complainant was entirely satisfied with the result of the department's investigations.

#### DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD.

Condemned meat and offal is indelibly stained with green dye to prevent its being used for human consumption. It is collected at frequent intervals from the slaughterhouses for processing by a firm of glue and chemical manufacturers. A small payment is made to the Council for this and the sum of £66 2s. 2d. was received for the year. Other unsound food is disposed of by burial on the Council's tips.

#### MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

There are five licensed slaughterhouses in the district, as follows :—

1. Mr. J. Anderson, North Grange Farm, Ponteland.
2. Mr. T. Bewick, Diamond Inn, Ponteland.
3. Cramlington and District Co-operative Society Ltd., Brunswick.
4. Mr. E. Lumley, Bridge End, Stamfordham.
5. Messrs. N. Wilson & Sons, West End, Stamfordham.

Routine inspection is made of **all animals** slaughtered in the district for human consumption, including ante-mortem inspection where possible, especially of casualty animals sent for emergency slaughter. Full details of inspections are included elsewhere in the report.

Mention was made in the opening remarks, of a report submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in accordance with the Slaughterhouse (Reports) Direction 1959. The details included the answers to :—

- (a) the existing and probable future requirements of the district for slaughterhouse facilities, having regard to the needs both of persons requiring the use of such facilities and of other persons, and
- (b) the slaughterhouse facilities which are, or are likely to become available to meet those requirements.

The Abattoir Sub-Committee, under the Chairmanship of Councillor J. Wilson (Chairman of the Health and Sanitary Works Committee) had a series of meetings with representatives of :—

Fatstock Marketing Corporation  
 National Farmers' Union  
 Ponteland Auction Mart Co. Ltd.  
 Newcastle, Gateshead and District Butchers' Association  
 Cramlington District Co-operative Society Ltd.  
 All owners and users of existing slaughterhouses in the district  
 All retail butchers with premises in the district.

The conclusion arrived at was to the effect that the Council were recommended to consider providing slaughtering facilities. This was the position at the 31st December, 1960.

# DETAILS OF ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED AND INSPECTED

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Normal Kill .. .. .	1111	297	250	5677	1032	8367
Casualties .. .. .	18	20	6	132	24	200
Number examined .. .. .	1129	317	256	5809	1056	8567
<b>CARCASES CONDEMNED WHOLLY OR IN PART :</b>						
<b>A. All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci—</b>						
Whole carcasses condemned ..	17(9)	22(11)	7(4)	66 (39)	17(8)	129 (7 )
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	400	161	4	114	172	851
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci ..	37.2%	57.7%	4.3%	3.1%	17.9%	11.4%
<b>B. Tuberculosis only :</b>						
Whole carcasses condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	7	8	—	—	14	29
Percentage of number inspect- ed affected with Tuberculosis	0.62%	2.5%	—	—	1.3%	0.3%
<b>C. Cysticecosis :</b>						
Whole Carcasses condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	2		—	—	—	2
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with cysti- cerci .. .. .	0.2%	—	—	—	—	0.02%

*The number of casualties are shown in brackets and are included in the totals.*



## DETAILS OF MEAT AND OTHER ORGANS CONDEMNED, SURRENDERED, AND DISPOSED OF

### FOR TUBERCULOSIS.

#### Bovine

Heads and Tongue ..	7
Livers .. .. .	5
Lungs .. .. .	20
Beef .. .. .	5 stones

#### Pigs

Heads and Tongues ..	15
Livers .. .. .	1
Lungs .. .. .	1
Pork .. .. .	3 stones

### FOR OTHER DEFINED DISEASES

#### Bovine.

Heads and Tongues ..	15—Abscesses 2, Actinomycosis 7, Cysticercous Bovis 2, Oedema 4.
Hearts .. .. .	4—Abscesses 1, Pericarditis 3.
Kidneys .. .. .	27—Ill-bled 4, Nephritis 17, Oedema 2, Pylonephritis 3, Retention Cysts 1.
Livers (Whole) ..	222—Abscesses 18, Cirrhosis 178, Haematoma 2, Fatty Infiltration 4, Ill-bled 3, Peritonitis 2, Telangiectasis 15.
Livers (Part) ..	199—Abscesses 6, Cirrhosis 193.
Lungs .. .. .	105—Abscesses 1, Emphysema 28, Ill-bled sets 8, Parasites 11, Pleurisy 20, Pneumonia 37.
Skirts .. .. .	4—Oedema 2, Pleurisy 2.
Spleens .. .. .	1—Haematoma 1.
Beef .. .. .	125—Arthritis and Oedema 15 stones, stones Oedema 24 stones, Traumatism 76 stones, Traumatism and Udder Haemorrhage 10 stones.
Carcases .. .. . (40, including 19 casualties)	768—Acute Peritonitis 1, Acute Septic stones Pneumonia 5, Bruising and Oedema 3, Emaciation 2, Emaciation and Oedema 11, Food and Mouth Disease 1, Gangrene and Bruising 2, Gangrenous Pericarditis 1, Generalised Oedema 3, Ill-bled 1, Immaturity 1, Moribund Carcase 1, Pneumonia and Emaciation 2, Pyaemia 1, Pyrexia and Oedema 3, Septicaemia 2.

#### SHEEP

Livers .. .. .	69—Cirrhosis 16, Fatty Infiltration 8, Parasites 44, Toxaemia 1.
Lungs .. .. .	40—Emphysema 1, Parasites 21, Pneumonia. 18.
Plucks .. .. .	9—Parasites 2, Pneumonia 7.
Mutton .. .. .	5½—Arthritis 2 stones, Septic Pneumonia stones Pneumonia ½ stone, Traumatism 3 stones.

Carcases (44, including 23 casualties)	..	..	187—Acute Mastitis 1, Bruising 1, Emaciation and Oedema 26, Generalised Oedema 3, Ill-bled 5, Immaturity 2, Internal Decomposition 1, Moribund Carcases 8, Pathological Emaciation 1, Pelvic Haemorrhage 1, Pneumonia and Emaciation 1, Pyaemia 1, Septic Arthritis 1, Septic Mastitis 2, Septic Pneumonia 6, Septicaemia 1, Traumatism 2, Traumatism and Pyrexia 1.
--	----	----	--

**Pigs**

Heads .. ..	2—Abscesses 1, Bruising 1.
Hearts .. ..	2—Pericarditis 2.
Kidneys .. ..	16—Nephritis 9, Retention Cysts 7.
Livers .. ..	10—Cirrhosis 2, Ill-bled 1, Parasites 6, Peritonitis 1.
Lungs .. ..	174—Ill-bled 11, Pleurisy 18, Pneumonia sets 145.
Plucks .. ..	3—Pericarditis 1, Pneumonia and Endocarditis 1, Pneumonia and Pericarditis 1.
Pork .. ..	3—Abscesses 2 stones, Bruising 1 stone. stones
Carcases (18, including 10 casualties)	112—Acute Swine Erysipelas 5, Emaciation 1, Icterus 1, Ill-bled 1, Immaturity 1, Moribund Carcases 5, Pyaemia 4.

Total weight of Meat and Offal Condemned : 10 tons 11 cwts.

### TOTAL NUMBER OF FOOD ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED AND INSPECTED IN PAST SEVEN YEARS

	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Cattle (excl.cows)	663	857	1,266	1,463	1,438	1,065	1,129
Cows .. ..	145	141	200	315	348	358	317
Calves .. ..	108	33	278	384	311	251	256
Sheep & Lambs ..	2,239	2,517	3,630	4,522	4,737	5,762	5,809
Pigs .. ..	470	886	1,235	2,815	1,859	1,354	1,056
Total ..	3,625	4,434	6,609	9,499	8,693	8,790	8,567

**ANTHRAX ORDER, 1938.**

This Order is operated by the County Constabulary and no notification was received from them during the year.

**FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE.**

An outbreak of this disease occurred towards the end of the year commencing, as far as this District was concerned, on 7th November, with a confirmed case at Eland Hall North Farm, followed the same day

by the discovery of a case in the slaughterhouse at North Grange Farm. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food declared these to be infected places, put into operation their policy of total slaughter and imposed a standstill on the movement of all stock within a two mile radius. As a precaution, the stock at Eland Hall South Farm was also slaughtered owing to its close proximity to the original outbreak. Carcases of animals slaughtered at North Grange Farm were examined in the slaughterhouse and those free from disease passed as fit for food. Thereafter slaughtering was suspended at this slaughterhouse for the duration of the outbreak.

Following the original cases, outbreaks were confirmed within a few days at West Farm, Berwick Hill, Smallburn, and East Coldcoats, after which there was a lull. This proved of short duration, however, and a further outbreak was confirmed at East Farm, Berwick Hill on 29th November. Further cases occurred at Whinney Hill and Twizell, and it was not until 5th January, 1961, that restrictions were finally lifted and normal work resumed.

## **PUBLIC CLEANSING**

### **REFUSE COLLECTION.**

The estimated area of the district is approximately 130 square miles, comprising thirteen parishes. Each parish receives a regular refuse collection service. The district is divided into five cleansing sectors. To each sector is allocated one vehicle with a charginan, loader or loaders. Sectors 1, 2 and 3 deal with the southern portion and sectors 4 and 5, the northern half of the district. A weekly collectoin is maintained in the more densely populated parts of the district, namely sectors 1 and 2, and parts of 3 and 5. The remainder of the district receiving a fortnightly collection with the exception of hospitals, institutions and some villages where in these cases, weekly collections are made also.

Over the past twelve months the service reached the stage when it was found expedient to engage a cleansing foreman. Accordingly Mr. A. McLaren, Driver Mechanic, was promoted to this position. His duties include keeping a detailed check on the day to day operation of the service.

Rapid building development continues at Darras Hall, Heddon-on-the-Wall, Woosington and Newbiggin Hall. Over the year there has been an increase of 1,008 houses within the district. The purchase of a dual tip Karrier Gamecock refuse vehicle having a loading capacity of 18 cu. yds. has been an immense help and saving on sector 2. This vehicle replaces a 1948 Thorneycroft 12 cu. yd. side loader which has since been renovated for use as a spare vehicle. The renovation included the construction of a new body. It was thought at one time that the vehicle body was repairable but closer examination revealed that this was not practicable.

### **SEPTIC TANK EMPTYING SERVICE.**

In April delivery was received of a 1,000 gallon cesspool emptier, mounted on a four wheel drive Thames Trader chassis. Such a vehicle now makes it possible to empty the 536 septic tanks and cesspools serving domestic property in the district once every six months, in accordance with the recommendation laid down in a Memorandum issued by the Ministry of Health.



During the year ending 31st March, 1961, 666 tanks were de-sludged. Owing to an outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease in the area, operation on this service was at a standstill for two months, December and January, otherwise all the tanks in the district would have been emptied twice.

All domestic septic tanks are emptied as routine free of charge every six months. Occasions arise however where septic tanks serving business premises are desludged on request and a charge is made for this work.

## VEHICLES

The following vehicles are employed on the service :—

Thorneycroft	1948	12 cu. yd.	Side loader.	Petrol engine
Karrier Bantam..	1949	7	" "	" "
Karrier Bantam..	1950	7	" "	" "
Karrier Bantam..	1953	7	" "	" "
Shelvoke & Drewry	1955	18 cu yd.	Rear loader.	Fore and Aft Tipper. Diesel engine.
Karrier Bantam..	1959	7	" "	Side loader. Diesel engine.
Karrier Gamecock	1960	18	" "	Rear loader. Fore and Aft Tipper. Diesel engine.
Thames Trader ..	1960	1,000 gallon,	Cesspool	Emptier. Diesel Engine

## REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Disposal points are as follows :—

1. Brickyard Quarry, Ponteland.
2. Shotton Edge Quarry, Stannington.
3. Belsay.
4. Stobhill, Cheeseburn Grange.
5. Heddon-on-the-Wall.
6. Disused Sewage Works, Woolsington.
7. Mill Hill, Dinnington.
8. Morley Hill Farm Quarry, Hazlerigg.

Refuse disposal at two of the above points has now ceased. Shotton Edge Quarry is one, where, at the request of the owners, tipping was discontinued. This tip, has proved most useful because of its situation, and has been in use for a number of years. The little tipping space which remains has now been reserved for use by nearby farmers.

A quarry situated at Morley Hill, Hazlerigg, has been in use for three years, and was in November completely filled. Enquiries are being made to ascertain the cost of doing the necessary work of bulldozing level and spreading a final layer of soil. No charge has been made by the National Coal Board for the use of this Quarry.

## CLEANSING COSTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1961.

Estimated weight of refuse removed .. ..	11,879 tons
Approximate average weight per house per annum ..	32 cwts.
Average volume per house per annum. .. ..	5.33 cu. yds.
Average per 1,000 population per day (365 days) ..	28.5 cwts.
Total cost of collection and disposal (Refuse and Salvage) and operation of septic tank emptying service ..	£22,458 0 0
Less Income from salvage, trade refuse, etc. .. ..	£2,043 0 0
Nett Cleansing Cost ..	£20,415 0 0



Refuse collection, cost per house per annum .. ..	£2 14 9
Refuse collection, cost per head of population .. ..	17 11
Cost on rates in the £ .. .. .	1 3.8d.

## SALVAGE

The steady increase in the amount of salvageable material collected year by year with the corresponding rise in revenue, makes such a service encouraging and worthwhile. The income from this source received over the last financial year rose by £335 5s. 1d. to £1,666 6s. 6d. although the decrease in the monetary value obtained from the sale of newspaper, from £9 os. od. to £8 10s. od per ton, was continued throughout the whole of the year. Wastepaper is despatched at regular intervals to Thames Board Mills, with whom the Council have a contract.

### DETAILS OF SALVAGE DISPOSED OF :

	Tons	Cwts.	Qtrs.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper ..	189	0	3	0	1,588	17	7
Rags .. ..	3	13	3	7	62	7	3
Scrap Metal ..	1	11	3	0	15	1	8
	194	6	1	7	£1,666	6	6

## WATER

The entire district, with the exception of three small privately owned supplies, is now served by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company.

### PRIVATELY OWNED WATER SUPPLIES.

The three privately-owned water supplies still in use serve parts of the Parishes of Belsay Ward 2, Capheaton and Matfen Ward 1. The sources of supply in two instances are land springs and in the third a bore-hole.

# WATER SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE YEAR FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

Premises	Type of Supply	Sample taken from	Probable No. of Coliform Bacilli per 100 ml.
West Low House, Whalton	Land Spring	Tap	35
do. do.	do.	Supply Pipe	1
Toft Hill Cottage, Harnham	do.	Stone collecting chamber	35
East Town Farm, Heddon	Main	Tap	Nil.
Woodside, Heddon	do.	do.	Nil.
Diamond View, Ingoe	do.	do.	Nil.
Tankerville, Ogle	do.	do.	Nil.
North Side, Matfen	do.	do.	Nil.
Police House, Stannington	do.	do.	Nil.
Kennedy Well, Kirkheaton	do.	do.	Nil.
Saltwick Farm, Saltwick	do.	do.	Nil.
North Side, Stamfordham	do.	do.	Nil.
Park Cottage, Ogle	do.	do.	Nil.
Police House, Belsay	do.	do.	Nil.

I am indebted to Mr. S. G. Barrett, M.I.C.E., Engineer to the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company, for the following information:—

“The number of samples of filtered water examined at the Company’s Throckley Laboratories during the year totalled 844. Of this number 840 were classified “excellent,” 3 “satisfactory,” and 1 “unsatisfactory.”

Samples taken from various points within the Castle Ward Area were also subject to bacteriological analysis with the following results:—

<i>Source of Supply</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Classification</i>
Harlow Hill Reservoir	14	All “excellent”
Heddon-on-the-Wall Tank	2	Both “excellent”
Fenham Reservoir	11	All “excellent”
Moot Law Reservoir	15	All “excellent”
Whalton Reservoir	10	8 “excellent” 1 “satisfactory” 1 “unsatisfactory”

Independent bacteriological analysis were also undertaken by some of the authorities receiving water supplies from the Company and out of a total number of 409 samples thus examined 366 were classified “excellent,” 22 “satisfactory” 6 “suspicious” and 15 “unsatisfactory.”

In all cases where there had been “suspicious” or “unsatisfactory” classifications, check samples proved “excellent.”

Messrs. J. & H. S. Pattinson, the consulting analysts carried out bi-monthly chemical analysis of the town's water and the results were, in all cases, completely satisfactory.

The following new water pipes were laid during the year :—

Ponteland Parish	..	962	lin, yds. of	3	in. dia. pipes
		8	..	4	..
		463	..	6	..
		131	..	10	..
Heddon Parish	..	3	..	2	..
		143	..	3	..
		1,613	..	4	..
		242	..	6	..
Hazlerigg Parish	..	41	..	3	..
		284	..	4	..
Woolsington Parish	..	8	..	3	..
		99	..	4	..
Brunswick Parish	..	104	..	3	..

Premises newly connected during the year 1960 are shown as follows :

Whitchester, Heddon	..	..	2	Houses
Frolic Farm Cottage, Capheaton	..	..	1	House
The Spinney, Stannington Road Ends,				
Stannington	..	..	1	House
Crag House, Ingoe	..	..	1	House
The Vicarage, Heddon	..	..	1	House
Bygate Farm, Stamfordham	..	..	2	Troughs
Matfen Vicarage, Matfen	..	..	1	House and Trough
Field, 155 Station Road, Heddon	..	..	1	Trough
Low Hall, Ingoe	..	..	1	Trough
456 Northside, Capheaton	..	..	1	House
Field 89, West Farm, Kirkheaton	..	..	1	Trough
19 South Side, Matfen	..	..	1	House
Brandy Well Farm, Capheaton	..	..	1	Trough
North Lodge, Dissington Hall, Dalton	..	..	1	House
Woodhill Nursery, Medburn	..	..	1	House
Burnlea, Medburn	..	..	1	House
West View, Station Road Ends, Stannington			1	House
Northern Gas Board, Stannington	..	..	1	Compressor House
Lough House Farm, Stannington	..	..	1	Farm
Low Hall Farm, Matfen	..	..	1	Farm
Roguery Farm, Whalton	..	..	1	Farm
East Moorhouse Farm, Matfen	..	..	1	Farm
Land Settlement Association, North Road,				
Stannington	..	..	1	Smallholding
Field House Farm, Dalton	..	..	1	Farm
North Shotton Farm, Stannington		..	1	Farm
Whitehouse Farm, Capheaton	..	..	1	Farm
New House Farm, Capheaton	..	..	1	Farm

## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Under this Act the Local Authority is required to keep its district free from rats and mice and to this end the Council employ a full time Official on this work. Infestations in dwelling houses are dealt with free of charge ; in the case of business premises, farms, etc., a charge is made for work done and the sum of £54 was recovered in this connection. The methods used in rodent destruction are those currently recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and co-operation is maintained with the Divisional Pests Staff of that Ministry.

The Council are members of the Mid-Northumberland and South Northumberland Workable Area (Rodent Control) Group Committees. These meetings are held twice a year and are attended by officials from the Public Health Department. Apart from discussing matters applicable to the districts represented on the Committees, useful and instructive talks are, from time to time, given by the Officers of the Ministry. Once a year, a general meeting of all the Workable Area Committees is held in the Ministry offices at Kenton Bar.



	Type of Property				Total
	Non-Agricultural			Agri- cultural	
	Refuse Tips & Sewage Works	Dwell- ing houses	All others (incl. business prem- ises)		
No. of Properties in District .	33	7466	258	484	8241
No. of Properties inspected ..	33	245	104	210	592
Total Inspections including Re-inspections .. ..	144	316	132	241	833
No. of Properties found to be Infested and Treated by Local Authority :					
(a) Rats .. ..	9	113	8	11	141
(b) Mice .. ..	—	29	5	1	35
Total treatments carried out including Re-treatments ..	19	150	23	13	205
No. of Block Control Schemes carried out .. ..	—	2	—	—	2

**DISINFESTATION OF PREMISES.**

Insects 10. Beetles 9. Wasps Nests 14.

**HOUSING**

New Houses Completed during the year.	With State Assistance	Unaided	Total
(a) By Local Authority .. ..	16	Nil.	16
(b) By any other Housing Authority..	664	Nil	664
(c) By private persons .. ..	Nil.	217	217

Total number of inhabited houses in the district ..... 7,466

**UNFIT HOUSES.**

Under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957 formal action was taken in respect of five houses.

Reference to the Housing Consolidation Regulations 1925/32, shows that there are 21 houses in the Rural District considered to be unfit for human habitation. Of these 15 are situated in the village of Stamfordham, where formal action on the property has been deferred for some time. The other houses are situated elsewhere in the district.

When Notices of Time and Place are made under the afore-mentioned Section of the Housing Act, the owners are made fully aware of the advantages to be gained by applying for either (a) a Discretionary Grant or (b) a Standard Grant, towards the improvement of the property. The extent to which use has been made of a grant is shown by reference to the heading "Improvement Grants."

In addition to grant aided work, improvements and sanitary defects were remedied in 116 properties.

During the year 13 houses were demolished, the result of formal action under the Housing Acts, taken during previous years.

A second survey of houses throughout the district is in progress and it is very probable that houses previously placed in Category 3 will, through neglect, have deteriorated sufficiently to place them in Category 4, and as such, will be suitably dealt with under the Housing Acts.

### IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

**HOUSING ACT 1949. HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENT ACT 1954. RENT ACT, 1957. HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT 1958 (Sections 30 - 33). HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT 1959.**

The number of applications for Standard Grants has been disappointing, up to the time of compiling this report, only four applications had been received.

There has been a decrease in the number of applications for Discretionary Grants, from 36 in 1959 to 25 in 1960.

As mentioned previously, every opportunity is taken to encourage applications for the improvement of houses. It is understood that legislation is being prepared which would, if enacted, increase the present 8% which can be charged on the rent, to 12½%. This should assist towards making works of improvement to property a better financial proposition.

The average cost per house of carrying out improvement works, as distinct from repairs, amounted to :—

			£	s.	d.	
	Discretionary Grants	.. ..	1,104	5	2	
	Standard Grants	.. ..	301	11	4	
			Discretionary Grants			Standard Grants
(a)	Applications submitted to Local Authority during year	.. ..	25			3
(b)	Applications rejected	.. ..	—			—
(c)	Applications withdrawn	.. ..	3			—
(d)	Applications approved	.. ..	22			3
(e)	Total number of applications approved in the area since inception of scheme..		341			8

### HOUSING CONSOLIDATION REGULATIONS 1925/32 REGULATION 31

1.	No. of houses unfit for human habitation..	.. ..	21
2.	No. of houses where defects were remedied by informal action		116
3.	No. of representations made to the Council with a view to :—		
	(a) serving notices requiring the execution of work..	.. ..	—
	(b) making demolition or closing orders	.. ..	5

4.	No. of notices served requiring the execution of works	..	—
5.	No. of houses rendered fit after service of formal notices	..	—
6.	No. of demolition or closing orders made	.. .. .	4
7.	No. of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under Sec. 16 of Housing Act, 1957	.. .. .	1
8.	No. of houses demolished	.. .. .	13

## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

It is fortunate that throughout this rural district there are no major problems regarding the pollution of the atmosphere. What pollution there is, is confined to the eastern side of the district, attributable to colliery workings. It is for this reason that a rain deposit gauge is sited at Brunswick Village, the contents of which is collected monthly and delivered to the Public Analyst for investigation on deposited matter. As evidenced by the decrease in the amount of water insoluble and soluble matter, there has been a slight improvement compared with the previous year.

In the same vicinity, but within the boundary of another district, a spoilbank on fire created a smoke nuisance in Brunswick Village. The local authority concerned, took the matter up with the National Coal Board who, without delay, abated the nuisance by re-directing water hoses on the fire.

During the year, a complaint concerning the emission of smoke from a nursery garden on the Darras Hall estate, was received. Investigation showed that not only was a low grade fuel used but that the method of stoking was also at fault. As a result of advice given in each case, the nuisance was abated as shown by subsequent observations.

The Stannington Children's Hospital Authorities have been made aware for some time, of an emission of black smoke at frequent intervals from their boiler house plant. It is therefore encouraging to report that in June this year, the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board commissioned Messrs. John Thompson (Triumph Stoker) Combustion Engineers of Leeds, to instal two pairs of "Thompson-Triumph" Travelling grate stokers to their Lancashire boilers. This installation has now brought the plant up to standard in line with the requirements of the Clean Air Act, 1956.

From 2nd to the 7th May, a Mobile Clean Air Exhibition was held at the entrance to the Council Offices, sponsored by the Northumberland and Durham Local Authorities Clean Air Committee. It may well be that the poor attendance at this exhibition, is some indication of a certain degree of apathy still prevailing, and that people are not yet conscious of the amount of pollution to the air arising from even their own domestic chimney.

The Council are members of the Northumberland and Durham Local Authorities Clean Air Committee, the North Eastern Regional advisory Committee and the Sub and Technical Committees which provide useful machinery for the discussion and formation of policy towards the general improvement of atmospheric pollution.

## BUILDING BYELAWS — PART IVa — SMOKE PREVENTION.

The above byelaw, adopted by this Council in 1957, makes it obligatory to instal in a new building heating and cooking appliances which

are suitably designed for burning any of the following fuels :—

- (a) Gas
- (b) Electricity
- (c) Coke or Anthracite

Exception is made in the case of furnaces to which Section 3 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, applies.

The Coal Utilisation Council Regional Office, at 18 Saville Row, Newcastle upon Tyne, where all modern approved solid fuel burning appliances are exhibited for inspection by the public, continues to provide an excellent opportunity for free advice on the selection, installation and operation of such appliances.



**FACTORIES ACT**

There are 75 factories in the district. The following tables show the number of inspections and defects found during the period under review :

**Inspections**

PREMISES	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(I) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. .. .	13	47	—	—
(II) Factories not included in (I) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. .. .	62	71	—	—
(III) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' Premises) ..	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b> ..	75	118	—	—

**DEFECTS FOUND**

PARTICULARS	Number of Cases in which Defects were found				No. of cases in which pro- secutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M.I.	By H.M.I.	
Want of Cleanliness .. ..	4	4	—	—	—
Overcrowding .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences—					
(a) Insufficient .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	6	6	—	—	—
(c) Not Separate for Sexes..	—	—	—	—	—
Other Offences (not including Offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL .. ..	10	10	—	—	—

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The report under this heading has been provided by the Engineer and Surveyor, Mr. G. E. Dimmack, M.I.MUN.E.,

### (a) Ponteland, Darras Hall, Woolsington Main Drainage Scheme.

Work commenced in March on Contract No. 2.

By the end of the year the off-site sewers to serve Newbiggin Hall and Kenton Bank Foot had been laid.

A new sewer had been completed from Ponteland to Prestwick and work had commenced on the construction of a new automatic Pumping Station to replace the Ridge Estate Sewage Works.

A short section of sewer was laid to connect the properties at Callerton Station to the sewerage system on the main road at the Wheatsheaf Hotel.

(b) At the 31st December, 1960, the Council controlled 16 Sewage Treatment Works as follows :—

- |                       |                            |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Belsay             | 8. Matfen (Standing Stone) |
| 2. Berwick Hill       | 9. Milbourne (2 works)     |
| 3. Capheaton          | 10. Ogle                   |
| 4. Dalton             | 11. Stamfordham            |
| 5. Fenwick            | 12. Stannington (2 works)  |
| 6. Heddon-on-the-Wall | 13. Wallridge              |
| 7. Kirkheaton         | 14. Whalton                |

The following table gives an indication of the mileage of various foul and surface water sewers and pumping mains that are maintained by the District Council :—

LOCATION	Separate Systems		Com- bined	Pumping Mains	No. of Manholes
	Foul	Surface Water			
	Length of	Sewers in Lin.	Yds.	Lin. Yd.	
BELSAY			733		11
BERWICK HILL			467		7
BRUNTON PARK	6661	6921			232
BURN CLOSE			3220		39
CAPHEATON			392		6
DALTON			157		1
DARRAS HALL	21298	19419			375
DINNINGTON	9083	4936		3387	67
FENWICK	340				5
FRENCHMAN'S ROW			600		5
HAZLERIGG	279	500	3015		55
HEDDON-ON-THE-WALL		677	5415	150	91
KENTON BANK FOOT			2600		32
KIRKHEATON			400		16
MILBOURNE	25				1
OGLE			953		11
PONTELAND	6360	5174	4859	2803	326
STAMFORDHAM		372	3855	30	63
STANDING STONE	175				5
STANNINGTON			5723	727	57
WHALTON	103	103	883		12
WOOLSINGTON	386	535	11787		168
TOTALS	44710	38637	45059	7097	1585
Equivalent Mileage of each Type	25.40	21.32	25.60	4.03	

TOTAL MILEAGE OF ALL TYPES — 76.35

**(c) Disposal of Sewage to Neighbouring Authorities.****1. Gosforth Urban District Council.**

860 Houses at Brunton Park and Melton Park discharge sewage to a sewer belonging to the Gosforth U.D.C. Of this total 6 new connections were made during the year.

**2. Seaton Burn Valley Joint Sewerage Board.**

The total number of premises now draining to the East and West Pumping Stations at Dinnington and from Hazlerigg and Bruns-  
wick Village, to the Longbenton U.D.C. Sewer at Seaton Burn School was 1,202 at the 31st December, 1960.

This figure represents an increase of 42 new connections during the year.

**3. Newburn Urban District Council.**

No new connections were made to the sewers draining to this Authority during the year ending 31st December, 1960.

**4. City and County of Newcastle upon Tyne.****(i) Brunton Park.**

389 Houses discharge by gravity to the Ouseburn Sewer.

**(ii) Ponteland, Darras Hall, Woolsington Main Drainage.**

Sewage discharges by gravity and pumping to the head of the Corporation's Ouseburn sewer, the present maximum rate of flow being approximately 200 cubic feet per minute.

**(d) New Works Undertaken during the Year.****1. Stannington Station Road.**

Work was completed on this Contract, and as a result 1 Sedimentation Tank, 1 Percolating Filter (40 ft. diameter) and 2 Humus Tanks have been added, giving a 50% increase in the capacity of the plant.

**2. Belsay.**

The filter and distributor have been re-built and a humus tank provided



## SUMMARY OF WORK EFFECTED.

### PRIVY CONVERSIONS.

There have been 19 conversions of privies to the water carriage system at the following places :—

Redhouse Farm House, Dalton.  
 Farmhouse at Turpins Hill, Heddon-on-the-Wall.  
 19 and 20 Cottages, South Side, Matfen.  
 2 Cottages, Milkhope, Blagdon.  
 Appley Cottage, Stannington.  
 Close House, Prestwick.  
 Nesbitt Hill Head Farm House, Stamfordham.  
 No. 1 Cottage, Waterloo, Matfen.  
 Standwell Cottage, Harlow Hill.  
 Dovecote Farm Cottages (three), Stannington.  
 3 North Side, Kirkheaton.  
 Field House, Callerton.  
 Standing Stone Farm Cottages (two), Matfen.  
 California House, Heddon.

Of the 19 conversions, 6 were assisted under the provisions of Section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936, under which the Council paid not more than half of the reasonable cost of the work. The remaining 13 were carried out as part of the improvements of the dwelling under the Housing Acts, 1949/59.

	No. of Inspections during yr.	No. of defects or Contra- ventions of Bye-Laws	No. of Informal Notices served	Defects Remedied by Informal Action	No. of Satutory Notices Served
<b>HOUSING—</b>					
Structural defects ..		95	86	79	—
Defective Food Store ..	432	29	29	27	—
Dampness ..		108	97	97	—
Overcrowding ..		2	—	2	—
<b>WATER SUPPLY—</b>					
Insufficient ..	23	3	3	3	—
Unsatisfactory ..	19	1	1	—	—
<b>DRAINAGE—</b>					
Insufficient ..	79	20	20	20	—
Defective ..		9	9	9	—
<b>SANITARY CONVENIENCE—</b>					
Insufficient ..		12	12	12	—
Defective ..	87	34	34	34	—
Food Premises ..	536	15	—	15	—
Dairies and Milk Samples ..	52	—	—	—	—
Slaughter Houses ..	676	8	—	8	—
Tents, Vans, etc. ..	141	—	—	—	—
Factories and Workplaces ..	118	11	—	11	—
Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles ..	10	10	—	10	—
Smoke Nuisances ..	54	5	5	5	—
	2227	362	296	332	—

## CONCLUSION

To the Health and Sanitary Works Committee under the Chairmanship of Councillor J. Wilson, and Doctor M. Hopper, the Medical Officer of Health, I express my thanks for the support rendered to me throughout the year, and to all other Chief and other Officials for their co-operation.

I also record my appreciation of the most satisfactory manner in which the duties of the department have been carried out by Mr. J. Taylor, Mr. R. Hardy, Mr. W. Jobson and the clerical work by Mrs. D. McGregor, Mrs. J. Hetherington and Mrs. J. Sanderson.

ERIC WM. STRACHAN,  
Chief Public Health Inspector and  
Cleansing Superintendent.







